

VZCZCXR05211

PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH
DE RUEHKO #1674 2050334

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

P 240334Z JUL 09

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4803

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY

RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY

RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY

RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY

RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY

INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 5449

RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 7778

RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 2935

RUEHKS/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 5966

RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 9257

RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0041

RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2956

RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 6683

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 6349

RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 001674

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - NORTH KOREA

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Several Friday morning papers front-paged arrangements being made between the U.S. and Japan for President Obama to visit Japan in mid-November.

¶2. "Do Not Overlook Signs from U.S." On recent remarks by DOS officials, including Secretary of State Clinton and Assistant Secretary of State Campbell, that Washington may offer an 'attractive comprehensive package' to Pyongyang in return for its complete denuclearization, the liberal Asahi editorialized (6/24): "This message from the U.S. administration presents an opportunity to achieve a breakthrough in the ongoing impasse in the Six-Party Talks. To prevent the current crisis, in which North Korea is recklessly pursuing nuclear development, from further deepening, any opportunity to jumpstart negotiations on North Korean problems must be seized.... We would like to see China playing a greater role in order to help the U.S. and North Korea find a chance for full-fledged negotiations in the future. Improvements in North Korea's ties with the U.S. hold the key to a smooth power transition. North Korea should not overlook this opportunity."

¶3. "North Korea Has No Friends" The conservative Sankei insisted in an editorial (7/24): "Myanmar's government, which is apparently involved in military cooperation with North Korea, promised the U.S. it would enforce UN sanctions on North Korea. It has become clear, as Secretary of State Clinton stated, that 'North Korea has no friends left.' There is no other option for North Korea but to comply with UN resolutions and swiftly return to the Six-Party Talks in order to extricate itself from international isolation. The DPRK leadership should correct its attitude with that in mind."

¶4. "North Korea's Hard-line Stance Continues" On the recent ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) meeting in Phuket, Thailand, in which the North Korean nuclear issue was one of the high agenda items, the business-oriented Nikkei wrote (7/24): "North Korea's hard-line position has remained unchanged and the U.S. is ratcheting up the

pressure on it. With the U.S., Japan, and South Korea having failed to convene 'five-party talks' on the margins, the ARF meeting left the impression that the road toward preventing a crisis is becoming even rougher."

ZUMWALT